"THE SALMON DANCE ON ITS FIRST ARRIVAL"

Yil-me-hu

WINTER 2011/2012

NISQUALLY RIVER BASIN

THE NISQUALLY WATERSHED SALMON RECOVERY NEWSLETTER | WHAT'S INSIDE:

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Cover photo: Nisqually Tribal member Lewis Squally inspects a pink salmon prior to release at the Tribe's newly installed fish weir on the Nisqually River.
Photo by Emmet O'Connell

If you would like to learn more about the Nisqually watershed, visit the Nisqually River Council's website at http://www.nisquallyriver.org/. The Nisqually River Council is implementing its Nisqually Watershed Stewardship Plan, which seeks to encourage sustainability efforts in the watershed while continuing the long legacy of working toward collaborative environmental management with watershed communities. Visit the website to find out more information about this and other stewardship efforts within the watershed. You can also become a Facebook friend of the Nisqually River Council to get updates on Nisqually watershed news and events.

Printed with soy-based ink on recycled paper that is certified by the Forest Stewardship Council.

Artist: Gabe

Yil-me-hu

Yil-me-hu, Nisqually word that means "the salmon dance, on its first arrival."

The first fish ceremony — The first fish caught in the spring was prepared in an earth pit stove, shared and eaten by members of the village. The bones, left intact, were returned to the river, pointing upstream. This display was symbolic. It meant that the villagers were respectful to the fish spirits and wished that, because the ceremony had been done correctly, many more fish would come up the stream during that year. A dance followed the ceremony called the "yil-me-hu," a Nisqually word that means "the salmon dance, on its first arrival."*

* Carpenter, Cecilia Svinth, Fort Nisqually: A Documented History of Indian and British Interaction. A Tahoma Research Publication. 1986. p13.

Nisqually Indian Tribe
Natural Resources Department

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Yil-me-hu *is published by the Nisqually Tribe Natural Resources Department to provide information about activities associated with the protection and restoration of salmon and their habitat in the Nisqually watershed. The newsletter is distributed to persons and entities who are interested in or engaged in salmon recovery efforts, and to the community at large.*

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Last spring, we lost 100,000 juvenile coho at our Kalama Creek hatchery. We lost power for a period of time overnight, and before anyone could fix the problem, we lost about 20 percent of our coho production.

While hatcheries are a vital part of how we manage fisheries here on the Nisqually, that episode shows how dangerous depending only on hatcheries can be. Pumps break and we lose power sometimes. We try to prevent those things from happening, and losing 100,000 coho isn't acceptable, but it does happen and will continue to happen.

Over the centuries, salmon evolved to survive in productive habitat in the wild. That's why we've worked so hard for the past decade here to restore salmon habitat. The Nisqually Tribe and our partners have restored over 800 acres of estuary and protected and restored miles of spawning and rearing habitat along important tributaries.

Decades ago, the original wild Nisqually chinook disappeared because of loss of critical habitat, dewatering by hydroelectric projects, over-harvest and poor hatchery practices. That original stock has been replaced by a hatchery stock of Green River chinook. Since then, we've treated Nisqually chinook as one big hatchery stock. Some fish strayed from the hatchery and spawned in the wild (natural origin) and some fish have spawned at a hatchery (hatchery origin).

There was enough habitat to really support a distinct and sustainable population of natural origin fish, until very recently. Until now, we've not made an effort to separate the two.

This fall, driven by the Endangered Species Act listing in 1999 and our success in implementing our habitat protection and restoration plan, we'll begin that process. We are building a weir across the Nisqually where we will manage up stream spawning. Our plan is to maximize spawning of natural origin salmon above the weir. Eventually, the stock of natural origin fish that spawn above the weir will adapt and become distinct from the hatchery stock.

We also plan to use natural origin fish captured at the weir to integrate into our hatchery program. The intent is to have our hatchery salmon be more like natural fish rather than the natural fish being more like our hatchery fish. In other words, let natural conditions drive the Nisqually Chinook population.

Depending only on a hatchery to produce salmon is like putting all your eggs in one basket. Restoring productive salmon habitat and having a hatchery program consistent with that natural production spreads the risk of a disaster to one generation of fish. The survival of these fish will depend on the health of the habitat in the watershed and throughout Puget Sound.

We're hopeful that we can continue to move forward in the Nisqually, protecting and restoring salmon habitat where we can. We know though, that the largest threat to Nisqually fish is the deteriorating condition outside the Nisqually in Puget Sound. Nisqually salmon have to swim through Puget Sound before returning home again, and despite the gains we've made here, we need to restore the sound before we're done.

— **David Troutt**,
Natural Resources Director,
Nisqually Indian Tribe

Photo: Don Perry

Jeanette Dorner and David Troutt

Jeanette Dorner Joins Puget Sound Partnership

After eleven years working for the Nisqually Indian Tribe's Salmon Recovery program Jeanette Dorner recently accepted an offer from the Puget Sound Partnership to become their new Salmon and Ecosystem Recovery Director. The position is accountable for leading and facilitating the success of all the watersheds across Puget Sound in implementing the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan and assisting local communities in implementing the Action Agenda.

"It was not an easy decision for me to accept this position," Jeanette said. "I love working for the Tribe, and with all the people in the watershed. We have been very successful over the last ten years of making some real progress in the Nisqually. However, we still have more to do to ensure our salmon are successful into the future. For example, making sure that there is habitat for our fish in Puget Sound as they are heading out to the ocean. Or making sure there is enough funding for us to do the projects we still need to complete such as the restoration of Ohop Creek."

"I have been watching the Puget Sound community struggle in these areas, and if they fail it will make it very difficult for us to be successful in the Nisqually. In the end after much consideration I decided I had to try to see if I could help sort things out and help others in Puget Sound to be as successful as we have been, and in that process help Nisqually complete its work as well. I will still be accountable for ensuring that Nisqually salmon recovery is successful but I will also now be assisting the rest of Puget Sound."

All of us here in the Nisqually watershed will miss Jeanette, and we wish her all the best in her new job with Puget Sound Partnership.

New Fish Weir Installed on the Nisqually

Jon Sharpe checks weir anchor chain prior to weir installation.

Photo: Emmett O'Connell

Weir installation nearly completed.

Photo: Don Perry

The Nisqually Tribe has been working with partners throughout the watershed to increase the productivity of naturally spawning salmon. Habitat restoration projects on two important Chinook tributaries – the Mashel River and Ohop Creek – and restoration of the Nisqually River's estuary will result in more naturally spawning Chinook.

"The main reason more naturally spawning fish survive is that they have enough quality habitat in which to spawn and rear," said David Troutt, natural resources director for the tribe and chair of the Nisqually River Council. "The Nisqually is one of the few places in the entire Puget Sound where you can easily say we've increased salmon productivity."

That increase in salmon productivity will drive changes in salmon hatchery and harvest management. In an effort to adapt to some of those changes, the Nisqually Tribe has begun operating a weir that will separate hatchery produced Chinook salmon from naturally spawning fish migrating upstream on the Nisqually River. "This weir is the next step in salmon management on the Nisqually River," Troutt said. The river-spanning weir, located on a stretch of river on the Ft. Lewis military reservation, will operate when Chinook salmon are in the river.

"We have an obligation and now the opportunity to create a productive and locally adapted stock," Troutt said.

"But first we have to control straying of hatchery fish onto the spawning grounds, and the most direct way to do that is with a weir." Since the 1960s when the native Chinook stock in the Nisqually River became extinct, all Chinook returning to the Nisqually (both hatchery and natural origin) are predominately descended from an imported Green River stock.

"We'll eventually restore a strong salmon population because we've been smart about restoring and protecting habitat, in addition to being smart about fisheries management," said Georgiana Kautz, natural resources manager for the Nisqually Tribe. In addition to eventually controlling the number of hatchery fish straying onto the spawning grounds, the weir will also help the Tribe monitor the overall health of the entire run. "We'll have a real-time understanding of exactly how many fish are in the river," Troutt said.

Tagging and Clipping Plays Important Role in Salmon Recovery

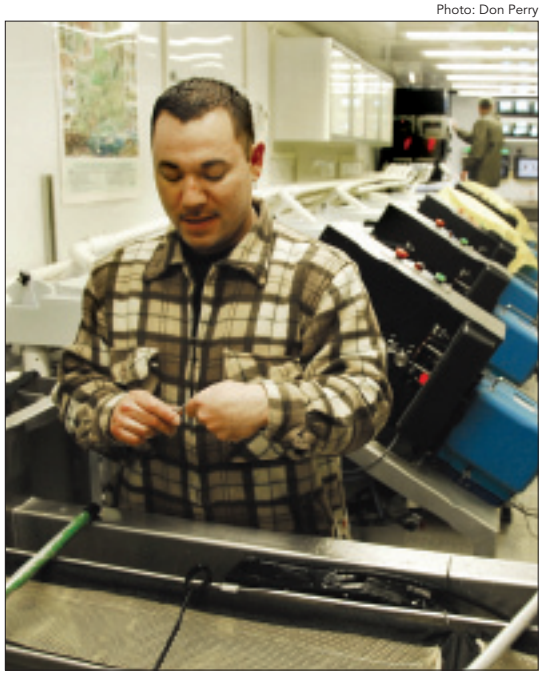
Salmon are important to the economic, social, cultural and aesthetic values of the people in the Pacific Northwest. The recovery of salmon, and in particular Nisqually fall Chinook is being accomplished within the context of a comprehensive plan that takes into account all of the factors that affect productivity, abundance, and diversity across the migratory range of the species.

As an integral part of salmon recovery, and in particular, the recovery of a locally adapted natural population of Nisqually fall Chinook, the marking (removal of the adipose fin) and tagging (insertion of a coded-wire tag) of juvenile hatchery raised fish is important. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) and the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission operate several mobile facilities that perform the tagging and clipping (removal of the adipose fin to identify hatchery raised fish) of Chinook salmon, in an effort to help achieve the goal of salmon recovery.

"These mobile facilities have been in use at the Nisqually Tribe's Kalama Creek Hatchery for several years now and can clip and tag 40,000 to 70,000 fish per day," noted Jason Norton, WDFW biologist. "These mobile facilities were developed by Northwest Marine Technology and report an average 98% fin clip rate, which is a vast improvement over the old method of hand clipping, which at best was 6,000 to 7,000 fish per person per day."

After being tagged and clipped, the juvenile salmon remain in the hatchery for one week to ensure survival before they are released. Ultimately, tagged fish will be more easily identified and separated at the fish weir when they return as adults. After hatchery identified fish are separated from the natural stock salmon, the natural stock salmon will be allowed to continue upstream and spawn. "Improving habitat along with a more accurate method of clipping and tagging fish will help ensure the survival of future salmon populations," said David Troutt, natural resources director for the Nisqually Tribe.

Photo: Don Perry



David Stamper, hand clipping juvenile salmon.

Photo: Don Perry

Jason Norton, WDFW biologist, monitors tagging and clipping at the mobile trailer.

"These mobile facilities have been in use at the Nisqually Tribe's Kalama Creek Hatchery for several years now and can clip and tag 40,000 to 70,000 fish per day."
- Jason Norton

Last of the Nisqually Dikes Removed

The Nisqually River is free to roam once more, after more than a century of being constrained. Over 6,000 feet of dike has been removed along the Nisqually River on the Nisqually Indian Tribe's land near the Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge. Since 1999, over 10,000 feet of dikes have been removed, and more than 800 acres of estuary belonging to the Tribe and the Refuge have been restored.

"Historically, the river was able to move across its wide flood plain here at the mouth," said Florian Leischner, salmon restoration biologist for the tribe. "But, for the past century, it's been held in one path by the dikes." As a result of the dike removal, the Nisqually River will be allowed to migrate naturally as it once did more than a hundred years ago. In addition to removing the dikes, the tribe will also reconnect at least three tidal channels. Tidal channels are vital to salmon survival in the early part of their life cycle, and studies have shown that about 25 percent of the salmon using the estuary are from other Puget Sound River systems.

Photo: Florian Leischner

Dike removal at Red Salmon Slough

Photo: Jesse Barham, USF&WS

Old bridge pilings being removed at Red Salmon Slough

The newly restored estuary is giving juvenile salmon from throughout Puget Sound a place to feed and grow before they migrate to the open ocean. "We're tracking a lot of benefits for salmon in the estuary since it has been restored," said David Troutt, natural resources director for the tribe. "Our studies show than the young salmon are benefiting. The salmon that are coming into the estuary are finding the food they need here."

"Restored habitat means more salmon will return to the Nisqually," said Georgianna Kautz, natural resources manager for the Nisqually Tribe. "The right to harvest salmon that the tribe reserved in our treaty is meaningless if we don't have salmon to harvest and the habitat to support them."

Sign Acknowledges Restoration Work on Tanwax Creek

Recently, a sign acknowledging the efforts of hundreds of students, volunteers, and partnering organizations to restore 5 acres adjacent to Tanwax Creek inside the McKenna Forest Reserve was placed at a spot overlooking one of the sites.

Work began on the first of four separately owned parcels there in 2007, after one of the landowners contacted the Nisqually Tribe's Natural Resources Department with restoration questions. Soon, adult volunteer and school group events were scheduled to assist the landowner in his restoration efforts.

After four years, and with three additional landowners participating, a total of 5 acres has been planted with thousands of native trees and shrubs to control the invasive reed canary grass that has crowded out native species along Tanwax Creek and many other streams in the Nisqually River watershed.

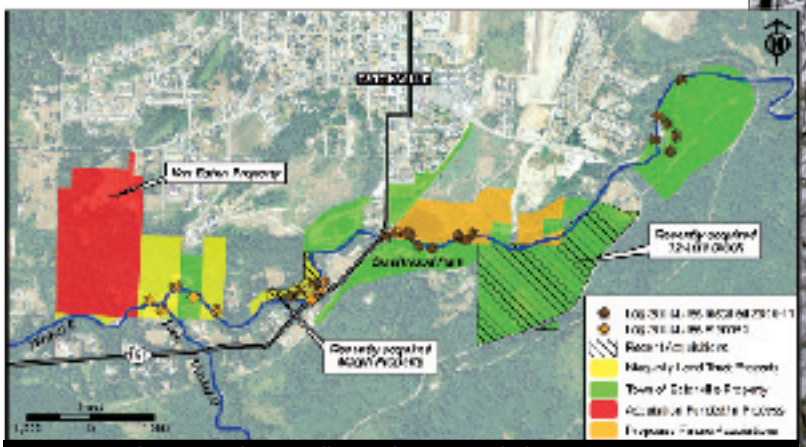
Organizations partnering in the restoration effort include the McKenna Forest Reserve landowners, Nisqually Stream Stewards, Nisqually River Education Project, Pierce Stream Team, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

The sign acknowledges restoration work on Tanwax Creek.

Protection for Nisqually River Shoreline

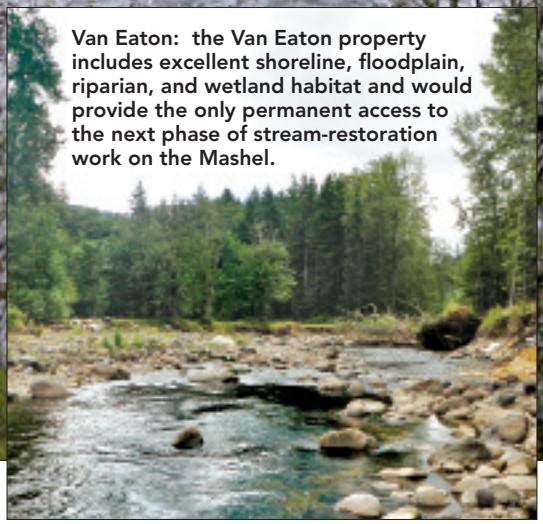
The Nisqually Land Trust recently completed two major purchases on the mainstem Nisqually River (Ceja and Van Antwerp), permanently protecting 57 acres and one-half mile of salmon-producing shoreline. Both properties provide spawning grounds for threatened Chinook salmon and steelhead trout as well as chum salmon and are ranked highest in priority for permanent protection in the Nisqually Chinook Salmon Recovery Plan. With these purchases, 75 percent of the Nisqually River shoreline, or 63 of 84 miles, is now held in permanent conservation status by the Land Trust and its many watershed partners.

Map by Jennifer Cutler



Current and proposed Nisqually Land Trust Mashel River acquisitions.

Van Antwerp: A view of the Nisqually River and Tanwax Creek confluence. This 34-acre acquisition protects one-third mile of Nisqually River shoreline.



Van Eaton: the Van Eaton property includes excellent shoreline, floodplain, riparian, and wetland habitat and would provide the only permanent access to the next phase of stream-restoration work on the Mashel.

Photo: Don Perry

Mashel Shoreline Protection Initiative Grows

The Nisqually Land Trust and the Town of Eatonville have also announced the acquisition of properties totaling 79 acres, representing over two-thirds of a mile of important salmon habitat along the Mashel River, largest tributary to the Nisqually River, and very important to the recovery of threatened steelhead trout and Chinook salmon. The properties are in the center of the Mashel River Protection Initiative, which has now protected a total of 201 acres and 1.8 miles of Mashel shoreline through the heart of Eatonville.

The Town of Eatonville acquired a 72-acre block with an $823,286 grant from the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program. The Land Trust provided $835,000 in match for the grant by transferring 50 acres of Mashel shoreline property into Town ownership. The Land Trust also raised $100,000 in acquisition funds through the Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board, from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) Fund.

The 72-acre block contains excellent riparian habitat and includes part of a proposed loop trail along the river for public access. The 72 acres is permanently protected from development and assures access for river restoration work by the Nisqually Indian Tribe, and the South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group.

The Land Trust also purchased 7.1 acres of Mashel shoreline from Larry and Donna Magill, to be included in the total 72 acre initiative. Along with the recent Mashel River acquisitions, the Nisqually Land Trust is currently negotiating the purchase of the 68-acre Van Eaton property, near the confluence of the Little Mashel and Mashel rivers.

The Nisqually Tribe has already installed 22 engineered logjams on and near the Magill property, which was acquired with funding from the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration Fund. Thus far the Nisqually Tribe and the South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group have installed more than 40 engineered logjams along the Mashel to create salmon-friendly pools and stream conditions.

Photo: David Hymel

Eatonville residents and volunteers worked hard to install 10 Rain Gardens.

Photo: Don Perry

Eatonville Stormwater Initiative

While significant investments have already been made in the restoration of both the Mashel River and Ohop Creek, Eatonville's storm water system is negatively impacting both streams. The bulk of Eatonville's stormwater is directed away from the Mashel River and sent untreated into Ohop Creek. The Mashel has low flows in the summer and early fall, causing the river to be too warm for young fish and too low for adult fish to get upstream.

Stewardship Partners has worked to educate the town about the potential of low-impact development techniques and structures like rain gardens to retrofit the stormwater system. Eighteen rain gardens have been installed in town so far at two large community events. This has helped generate local awareness about and interest in dealing with the stormwater issue. The Town has followed this lead by installing rain gardens and several thousand square feet of pervious concrete surfaces.

Eatonville has committed to developing a new stormwater plan that would identify how to disconnect Eatonville's stormwater system and infiltrate and treat the stormwater before it reaches the local salmon streams. The Nisqually Indian Tribe has assisted the town in finding some initial resources to develop this new plan and will be working with the town to find additional resources for implementation. Infiltrating stormwater into the groundwater using methods such as rain gardens will help increase base flows in the Mashel, which will keep the river cooler and make it easier for adult salmon to travel to their spawning grounds.

Rain Garden #2 of 10 installed in Eatonville in one day.

Photo: Don Perry

Some of the 55 volunteers that came to install Rain Gardens in Eatonville.

Photo: Don Perry

More Log Jams for the Mashel

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) recently installed a series of engineered log jams on the Mashel River in Eatonville. This work represents the final stage of an emergency repair project which began in 2009, following a severe storm and flood event that threatened to damage the Highway 161 Bridge and the Highway 161 roadway a short distance downstream. Private property nearby was threatened as well during the storm.

"This project includes construction of engineered log jams similar to those constructed by the Nisqually Tribe during the summers of 2009 and 2010," said Les DuBois, field engineer for the Washington State Department of Transportation. "The three log jams near the bridge are designed to reduce flow velocities and direct water away from the bridge. Six additional log jams will be installed downstream in 2012, where flood damage threatened the Highway 161 roadway during the storm. This will help protect the foundation of the roadway during future storm and flooding conditions," he said.

Log jams provide the necessary functions that fish need to survive, such as protecting juvenile salmon and redirecting flows to create scour pools and open gravel for salmon to lay their eggs in. Log jams also collect and contribute large wood to the stream system, while stabilizing channels and trapping sediment.

Photo: Don Perry

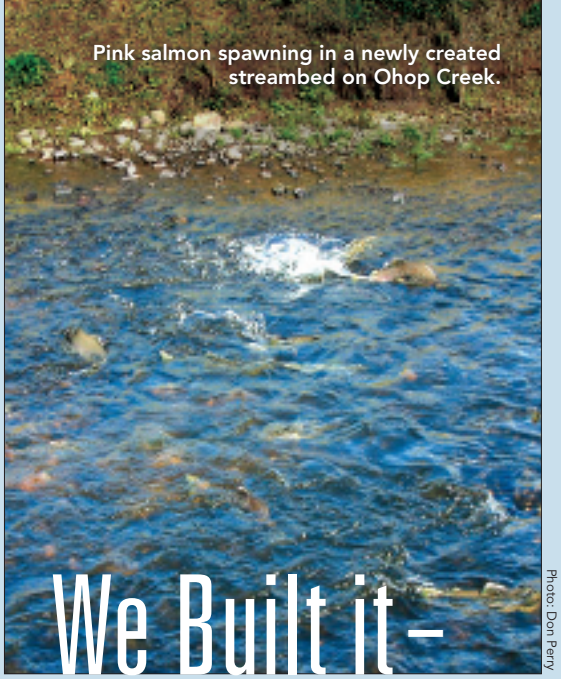
Beginning stage of work on WSDOT engineered log jams on the Mashel River in Eatonville.

Log jams provide the necessary functions that fish need to survive, such as protecting juvenile salmon and redirecting flows to create scour pools and open gravel for salmon to lay their eggs in.

The Nisqually Tribe began installing engineered log jams at Smallwood Park in 2006, and, in partnership with the South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group has constructed over 40 log jams on the Mashel River between Boxcar Canyon and the site just below Eatonville's water treatment plant since then. This final stage of slope stabilization work by WSDOT complements the Nisqually Tribe's efforts to enhance fish and wildlife habitat along this stretch of the Mashel River.

Photo: Don Perry

The completed and planted WSDOT Mashel log jams.



Pink salmon spawning in a newly created streambed on Ohop Creek.

Photo: Don Perry

We Built it– They Came

The phrase, build it and they will come has new meaning. Pink salmon, returning to spawn in the Nisqually River and some of its tributaries, have chosen several new spots to lay eggs on a re-configured and restored section of Ohop Creek owned by the Nisqually Land Trust. "Gravel was placed at a few locations on Ohop Creek during the work to stabilize the creek, and to see if some of the salmon that use the creek would be attracted to it," said Florian Leischner, restoration biologist for the Nisqually Indian Tribe.

Work to re-meander the creek close to its original footprint along a one-mile stretch owned by the Nisqually Land Trust was completed in 2009, and water from the ditch which was dug in the early 1900s to drain the Ohop valley was re-directed into the new stream meander in 2010. "This is the first time we have seen salmon spawning in this stretch of Ohop Creek and we're pretty excited about it," said Joe Kane, executive director for the Nisqually Land Trust. "It's a pleasant surprise to see salmon spawning there since the purpose of the restoration was mainly to provide winter rearing habitat for salmon."

Ohop Creek is one of the two major tributaries of the Nisqually River that produce Chinook and other salmon species and is one of the two highest priority areas in the Nisqually watershed for salmon habitat restoration other than the Nisqually estuary. The Nisqually Indian Tribe's restoration crew is working with the Nisqually Land Trust and the South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group to finish replanting much of the 100 acres along the one mile stretch of creek by the winter of 2011-2012.

Nisqually Natural Resources has new Shellfish Biologist

Welcome Michael Kyte to the Nisqually Natural Resources Department as its new shellfish program manager. Mr. Kyte is a marine biologist specializing in coldwater environments and habitats. He has extensive knowledge and experience with aquatic, estuarine, and marine intertidal and subtidal ecosystems. His specialties include nearshore habitats, subtidal benthic ecology, submerged aquatic vegetation (eelgrass and macroalgae), impact evaluation and mitigation, habitat and shellfish assessments, permitting requirements, and long-term ambient conditions monitoring.

Photo Don Perry

Shellfish program manager, Michael Kyte

Michael possesses over 35 years of consulting experience, specializing in freshwater and marine environments and habitats and has extensive experience with shellfish stock assessments including geoduck, softshell and hardshell clams, and crustaceans. He has consulted with shellfish growers to establish stock monitoring programs, assessment methods, and predator control and has provided expertise on aquaatic and marine species listed or proposed as threatened or endangered including salmonids, marine mammals, and birds.

Mr. Kyte has extensive experience with shellfish stock assessments including geoduck, softshell and hardshell clams, and crustaceans.

2011 STREAM STEWARDS CLASS

This year, 15 new Stream Stewards volunteers graduated after taking the unique 7-week training course offered by the Nisqually Tribe's Natural Resources Department.

Field activities included gathering benthic macroinvertebrate samples (streambugs), Nature Mapping, analysis of streambed substrate, visiting the unique prairie ecosystem on Joint Base Lewis McChord, installing Rain Gardens and visiting several salmon habitat restoration sites.

Classroom learning included such diverse topics as watershed geology, salmon of the Nisqually, nearshore marine and estuary habitat, history, vision and goals of the Nisqually River Council, elements of the Nisqually Watershed Stewardship Plan, upper Nisqually watershed and old growth forests, and cultural and natural resources history of the Nisqually People.

Throughout the year, Nisqually Stream Stewards volunteers participate in community events, assist in restoring salmon habitat areas, collect valuable information such as water quality samples and salmon spawning data, and take on projects such as outreach in their community and building rain gardens. To enroll in the Stream Stewards class of 2012, contact Don Perry, volunteer coordinator, at 360-438-8687 xt 2143, or perry.don@nisqually-nsn.gov.

Early registration is recommended, as seating is limited to the first 20 applicants.

Stream Stewards collecting benthic macroinvertebrates for analysis.

Restoration biologist Florian Leischner, gives Stream Stewards a streamside lesson in fluvial geomorphology.

Stream Stewards Tammy Harrison and Ashley Hetzel gathering Nature Mapping information

Nisqually Indian Tribe
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VOLUNTEER CALENDAR

JANUARY 7, 2012
SATURDAY | 9am to noon
Yelm Shoreline Nisqually Land Trust Planting*

JANUARY 14, 2012
SATURDAY | 10am to 1:00pm
Roy Salmon Homecoming
Contact Don Perry at:
perry.don@nisqually-nsn.gov

JANUARY 21, 2012
SATURDAY | 9am to noon
Yelm Shoreline Nisqually Land Trust Planting*

FEBRUARY 11, 2012
SATURDAY | 9am to noon
McKenna Nisqually Land Trust Planting*

JUNE 6 THRU JULY 21, 2012
WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AND SATURDAYS
Stream Stewards Training Course (free training)
Contact Don Perry at:
perry.don@nisqually-nsn.gov

*Nisqually Land Trust event.
For times and directions contact Joe Kennedy at:
landsteward@nisquallylandtrust.org
or 360-489-3400.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Photo: David Hymel

Sally King talked with Ciscoe Morris during a live radio broadcast in front of her yard.

A learning experience for one person has blossomed into Rain Gardens in hers and her neighbor's front yards, and a campaign by Washington State University and Stewardship Partners to install 12,000 Rain Gardens in the Puget Sound region by 2016, where currently over 800 rain gardens have been installed. Rain gardens are areas that are dug out and planted with native trees and shrubs that capture and filter polluted runoff from rooftops, driveways, and other hard surfaces much like a native forest.

It all began when Sally King spotted an ad in the Eatonville newspaper seeking 6 homeowners willing to have Rain Gardens installed in their front yards.

Having had conversations with her husband Randy over the years about a possible yard makeover for themselves, Sally was curious and interested at the same time about Rain Gardens. "It sounded perfect for us after we realized that the Rain Gardens would be installed by people who knew what they were doing, and it would look much nicer than a lawn," she said.

Sally contacted Stewardship Partners for more information, and within 3 weeks she had recruited 5 more neighbors on her street who were interested. She then organized a personal Rain Garden class for her neighbors in her home about how to care for Rain Gardens and helped coordinate a Rain Garden planting event featuring a live broadcast with Ciscoe Morris, host of the "Gardening with Ciscoe" show, on the street in front of her house.

"The Rain Garden experience has opened up a whole new world for me, including opportunities to meet and work with my neighbors, helping to build 10 more Rain Gardens in Eatonville, joining the Nisqually Stream Stewards volunteers and becoming involved in community issues," said Sally. "In just one year, people and issues related to the Rain Garden concept have made an important impact on my life and within the community where I live as well."